

No Worker Left Behind program lauded

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By Jill A. Laurin-Maxwell

Journal Reader

Does Michigan need a program that assists Michigan's residents who are unemployed or low income? Gov. Granholm's No Worker Left Behind, or NWLB, is just such a program. It is an innovative, forward-thinking program that will help Michigan's unemployed, displaced underemployed or low-income workers become educated for skilled high-demand occupations. NWLB is much needed to transform Michigan's de-industrializing economy. It allows those who qualify to train tuition-free for occupations in fields that are in high demand.

Free college training for residents in need does not hold favor with some elected officials. These opponents believe NWLB is a waste of funds stating that, as they see it, "no jobs exist." State residents are in need for more high-paying jobs, but without properly trained residents, Michigan may not only repel prospective industry/business from investing here but also may cause businesses already in the state to leave.

A case in point is Volkswagen of America, which announced in September that it will move its headquarters from Michigan to Virginia due to many factors, of which one is the lure of Virginia's skilled work force.

Almost 2,000 residents have begun this motivating economic program.

Jill A. Laurin-Maxwell

University of Michigan-Flint student

DeWitt
